

### REMARKS

The present application is U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/040,396. This 2<sup>nd</sup> Preliminary Amendment is being filed prior to receipt of the first Office Action. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Attached as Appendix A is the marked-up version showing the amendment.

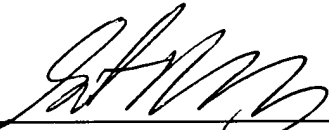
The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment and to examine the pending claims. The Examiner is respectfully urged to consider the claimed invention at the earliest time possible and issue a favorable action indicating the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone Applicant's undersigned representative at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Sherwood et al.

Date: July 8, 2002

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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